

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Wednesday, June 27, 2007 8:30 a.m. Room 519 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Accavitti, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Accavitti, Mayes, Angerer, Brown, Clemente, Ebli, Hammon, Hopgood, Lemmons, Lindberg, Melton, Miller, Palsrok, Garfield, Huizenga, Moolenaar, Horn, Opsommer. (18/19)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Nofs. (1/19)

Representative Mayes made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of June 20, 2007. No objections being offered, the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid the following bills before the Committee.

HB 4562	Accavitti	Public utilities; electric utilities; certain providers of electric service; require to comply with portfolio standard for renewable energy.
HB 4539	Robert Jones	Public utilities; electric utilities; requirement for utilities to produce a certain portion of electricity for sale through renewable sources; provide for.
HB 4319	Walker	Public utilities; electric utilities; requirement for utilities to produce a certain portion of electricity for sale through renewable sources; provide for.

The following individuals spoke to the Committee:

David Gard, representing the Michigan Environmental Council, in support of HB 4539

James Ault, representing the Michigan Electric and Gas Association, in opposition to HB 4562, HB 4359, HB 4519

James McBryde and Vince Nystrom, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), in support of the general concept of HB 4562, HB 4539 and HB 4319

Greg White, representing the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC), answered questions regarding electric competition and rates.

Representative Palsrok made a motion to excuse absent members. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

Chair Accavitti stated that the Committee would stand at ease, the time being 9:55 a.m.

Chair Accavitti reconvened the Committee at 10:45 a.m.

Greg White resumed answering questions for Committee members.

Doug Roberts, representing the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, spoke in opposition to HB 4562, HB 4539 and HB 4319.

Anna Giovinetto, representing Noble Environmental Power, spoke to the Committee regarding renewable energy and the cost of development of Michigan's energy infrastructure.

Reverend Charles Morris, representing Michigan Interfaith Power and Light, spoke in support of HB 4562 and HB 4539.

The following individuals submitted cards and wished to testify but were unable to do so due to time restraints:

Douglas G. Wood, representing the Kent County Department of Public Works, in support of HB 4562, HB 4319 and HB 4539

Lydia Fischer, representing the Sierra Club, in support of HB 4539

Kim Pargoff, representing Environment Michigan, in support of HB 4539 and HB 4562 (with amendments)

Rachel Steel, representing the National Wildlife Federation, in support of HB 4539 and HB 4562

Betsy G. Winkelman, representing the Michigan Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, in support of HB 4539 and HB 4562

Cards were submitted by the following individuals who did not wish to speak before the Committee:

Brian Beauchamp, representing the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, in support of HB 4562 and HB 4539

Paul Stankiewicz, representing the Michigan Catholic Conference, in support of HB 4562

Matt Smego, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, in support of HB 4562 and HB 4319 and in support of the concept of HB 4319

Kim Winchell, Diaconal Minister for Earthkeeping Education, in support of HB 4562 with amendments and HB 4539

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Accavitti declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 12:00 p.m.